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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/001,436	10/31/2001	Bryan D. Boswell	10010591-1	2354

7590 02/20/2004

AGILENT TECHNOLOGIES, INC.
Legal Department, DL429
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EXAMINER

KIM, HAROLD J

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2182

DATE MAILED: 02/20/2004

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Applicati n No.

10/001,436

Applicant(s)

BOSWELL ET AL.

Examiner

Harold Kim

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 December 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 08 December 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is in response to the filing of the Amendment A, Paper # 6, on 12/8/03, has been considered but they are not persuasive. Accordingly, this action is made **FINAL**.
2. Claims 1-18 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. **Claims 1-4, 6-7, 9-12, 14-15, 17 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Bacon, US Patent no. 6,307,538.**

5. In re claim 1, Bacon shows a method of controlling a flow serial data [46, fig 1] across an Radio Frequency (RF) barrier of an RF enclosure [20, fig 1; 76, fig 3], including:

a processor [21] sending one or more control data using one or more lines of a serial control data bus [bus between 46 and 54];

an interface electronics module [46], receiving the one or more lines of the serial control data bus and selecting one or more signals corresponding to one or more addresses of the one of more lines; and

the interface electronics module [46], sending the selected one or more signals to an electronics module [76, fig 3] within the RF enclosure.

6. In re claim 2, Bacon shows selecting each signal with a same line value [46].
7. In re claims 3 and 6, Bacon shows a microprocessor [21].
8. In re claim 4, Bacon shows integrated circuit technology [46] is used to select the one or more signals.
9. In re claim 7, Bacon shows an RF filtered connector [92, 72, fig 3].
10. In re claim 17 and 18, temporal gating functionality is inherent feature of interface electronics.
11. In re claims 9-12 and 14-15, Bacon teaches the method steps as set forth in claims 1-4, and 6-7. Therefore, Bacon also teaches the apparatus to carry out the method steps.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

12. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

13. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

14. **Claims 5, 8, 13 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bacon, US Patent no. 6,307,538, as applied to claims above.**

15. In re claims 5, 8, 13, and 16, Bacon fails to teach an SPI bus, and Schmitt trigger input buffers. Official Notice is taken that both the concept and the advantages of providing for SPI bus, and Schmitt trigger input buffers are old and well known in the art. Therefore, it would have been obvious to the ordinary skilled person in the art at the time the invention was made to include the SPI bus for more flexible system by allowing it to operate in multiple configurations, and Schmitt trigger input buffers for having more reliable system.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In the remarks, applicants argued in substance that (1) Bacon does not show a method of controlling a flow serial data across an Radio Frequency (RF) barrier of an RF enclosure, (2) Bacon does not show "receiving the one or more lines of the serial control data bus and selecting one or more signals corresponding to one or more addresses of the one or more lines", and (3) Bacon does not show an RF filtered connector.

Examiner respectfully traverses applicants' remarks.

As to point (1), Bacon shows a method of controlling a flow serial data [46, fig 1] across an Radio Frequency (RF) barrier of an RF enclosure [20, fig 1; 76, fig 3]. In addition, Bacon clearly shows a flow serial data ["universal serial bus" col 3, line 47; "serial data stream" col 4, lines 41-42; "sends digital values ... within cable 74" col 4, lines 56-57] across an Radio Frequency barrier of an RF enclosure ["electro-magnetic fields ... are shielded from the external atmosphere by connecting housing, which in preferred embodiments includes a metallic layer" col 5, lines 29-31].

As to point (2), Bacon shows receiving the one or more lines of the serial control data bus and selecting one or more signals corresponding to one or more addresses of the one of more lines [46, fig 1; 180, fig 7; col 5, line 57 to col 6, line 10; col 7, lines 22]. The limitation of "receiving the one or more lines of the serial control data bus and selecting one or more signals corresponding to one or more addresses of the one of more lines" is inherent feature of USB interface.

As to point (3), Bacon shows an RF filtered connector [92, fig 3; "attenuates large-scale electrical disturbances" col 7, line 13].

Conclusion

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-18 have been considered but they are not persuasive. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

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TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Mail Stop _____
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Effective December 1, 2003, hand-carried and facsimile-transmitted patent application related incoming correspondences will be to a centralized location.

The centralized fax number is 703 872-9306.

The centralized hand carry paper drop off location is:

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
2011 South Clark Place
Customer Window
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the technology center receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 306-5631.

Direct any inquiries concerning drawing review to the Drawing Review Branch (703) 305-8404.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Harold Kim whose telephone number is (703) 305-1948.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 6 AM - 4:30 PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey Gaffin can be reached on (703) 308-3301.

nk

Harold J. Kim

Patent Examiner

February 19, 2004/HK

Jeffrey Gaffin
JEFFREY GAFFIN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100